SAON: Its Purpose and Value-Added

What is SAON’s Goal?

SAON provides observational information in a timely and responsive manner that enables and empowers better decision-making by a wide host of diverse stakeholders; information that is policy relevant and not policy prescriptive.

How do we get there?

SAON achieves this goal by addressing at least four main issues:

Observation Coordination and Sustainment

1. Observational Asset Coordination: SAON facilitates coordination of the various observational assets in order to ensure consistent and possibly even standardized response to the information needs of the circum-Arctic and global stakeholders.
2. Capacity Enhancement and Sustainment: SAON works with the pertinent countries, indigenous peoples and organizations towards obtaining and sustaining the requisite support for observational and related informational needs.

Data Management

1. Data Integration and Quality Control: SAON provides for the integration of information and the Metadata QA/QC protocols that allow for effective data delivery and utilization.
2. Data Delivery: SAON facilitates the timely and responsive deployment of robust, high-quality information that directly supports the SAON goal.

Related Questions

What are the specific actions/activities that can address these issues and help in meeting our goal?

Do SAON’s current tasks get us towards achieving the overall goal?

Are the current tasks too broad in direction to effectively address the issues or achieve the goal?

Are a set of proposed strategic actions necessary in order to better achieve SAON’s goal or address the SAON issues?